

04/08/99
JC552 U.S. PTO

A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Richard Alexander Harrington et al.

Title: ENCRYPTED SOFTWARE INSTALLER

Attorney Docket No.: 777.222US1

JC542 U.S. PTO
09/288462
04/08/99

PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

We are transmitting herewith the following attached items and information (as indicated with an "X"):

- X Utility Patent Application under 37 CFR § 1.53(b) comprising:
- X Specification (23 pgs, including claims numbered 1 through 23 and a 1 page Abstract).
 - X Formal Drawing(s) (5 sheets).
 - X Signed Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney (4 pgs).
 - X Check in the amount of \$892.00 to pay the filing fee.
- Assignment of the invention to Microsoft Corporation (3 pgs) and Recordation Form Cover Sheet.
Check in the amount of \$40.00 to pay the Assignment recording fee.
Return postcard.

The filing fee has been calculated below as follows:

	No. Filed	No. Extra	Rate	Fee
TOTAL CLAIMS	23 - 20 =	3	x 18 =	\$54.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	4 - 3 =	1	x 78 =	\$78.00
] MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS PRESENTED				\$0.00
BASIC FEE				\$760.00
TOTAL				\$892.00

Please charge any additional required fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A.
P.O. Box 2938, Minneapolis, MN 55402 (612-373-6900)

By: Kent J. Sieffert
Atty: Kent J. Sieffert
Reg. No. 41,312

Customer Number **21186**

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EL334875369US

Date of Deposit: April 8, 1999

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By: Chris Hammond

Signature: Chris Hammond

ENCRYPTED SOFTWARE INSTALLER

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates generally to the field of data
5 processing and more particularly to a secure mechanism for
installing and upgrading software on a computing system.

BACKGROUND

Current regulations prohibit exporting "strong"
10 cryptographic software outside the United States without a
specific export license. For example, these regulations
currently prohibit exporting software having more than 56-bit
encryption. This prohibition creates problems for releasing,
distributing and upgrading cryptographic software because the
15 manufacturer is often forced to produce and distribute two
different software versions, a domestic version and an
international version.

One known solution for upgrading software has been to ship
an installation module that includes an upgrade for a non-
20 restricted software module and an encrypted upgrade for the
restricted version of the software module. During the upgrade
process the installation module determines what versions of the
software module already exist on the computing system. The

installation module decrypts and upgrades the restricted version only if a previous version of the restricted software is already present. Otherwise, the installation module upgrades the non-restricted version of the software module.

5 This approach alleviates some of the problems of upgrading individual software modules but has a number of deficiencies. First, because this approach is based on a one-to-one mapping between the version of the upgrade module and the version of the module already present on the computing system, it is
10 unworkable in the situation where a complete set of software modules must be upgraded. For example, this approach often results in only a subset of the desired software modules being upgraded because the computer may not have previous versions for all of the software modules. Second, this approach only
15 addresses upgrading software modules and does not address the initial installation of restricted software on a computing system.

For these reasons, and for other reasons stated below which will become apparent to those skilled in the art upon
20 reading and understanding the present specification, there is a need in the art for a generalized installation mechanism that is capable of securely installing and upgrading one or more

restricted software modules, either individually or as a complete set of software modules.

SUMMARY

5 The invention is directed toward an improved method and apparatus for securely upgrading and installing restricted software such as domestic strength cryptographic software. In one aspect, the invention is an improved setup program that upgrades one or more software modules when at least one of a
10 set of trigger files are present on a computer. Each software module to be installed is encrypted and encapsulated in a corresponding installation module. Each installation module is invoked by the setup program and is programmed to upgrade the software module when the presence of a corresponding trigger
15 file is detected. In this manner the invention installs the restricted software modules on the computer only when the computer has been previously authorized to use the software modules.

 In another aspect, the invention is a set of software
20 modules, referred to as an encryption pack, that is shipped for installation on a computer. The encryption pack includes one or more installation modules and a setup program. The setup program of the encryption pack invokes each installation

module, which in turn installs the encapsulated software module if a trigger file is present on the computer. The trigger file can be located on the shipped storage medium, such as a CD, in order to facilitate initial installation. Alternatively, the setup program can direct a user to log onto an authorized website for verification and to download the trigger file. This technique allows restricted software modules, that often are large in size, to be securely shipped to the user on a storage medium while only requiring the user to download a small trigger file. Once the small trigger file is downloaded the user can then access the software modules on the storage medium and install them on the computer.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a diagram of a suitable computer in conjunction with which embodiments of the invention may be practiced;

FIG. 2 is a block diagram illustrating one embodiment of an installation module that is invoked by a setup program for securely installing software onto the computer of FIG. 1

according to the invention;

FIG. 3 is a block diagram illustrating one embodiment of a database that is encapsulated within the installation module of FIG. 2;

FIG. 4 is a flowchart illustrating one exemplary method of operation of the setup program that securely installs and upgrades software modules; and

FIG. 5 is a flowchart illustrating one exemplary method of operation of the installation module of FIG. 2 when invoked by the setup program.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

In the following detailed description of exemplary embodiments of the invention, reference is made to the accompanying drawings that form a part hereof and which show specific exemplary embodiments in which the invention may be practiced. It is to be understood that other embodiments may be utilized and that logical, mechanical, electrical and other changes may be made without departing from the spirit or scope of the present invention. The following detailed description is, therefore, not to be taken in a limiting sense, and the scope of the present invention is defined only by the appended claims.

The detailed description is divided into four sections. The first section describes the hardware and the operating environment that is suitable for use as a computer for use with the inventive installation mechanism described below. The

second section provides a detailed description of the inventive system. The third section provides methods for operating an exemplary embodiment of the invention. Finally, the fourth section provides a conclusion of the detailed description.

5

Hardware and Operating Environment

FIG. 1 is a diagram of computer suitable for securely installing restricted software modules according to the various embodiments of the invention. For example, in one embodiment 10 the restricted software modules are domestic versions of cryptographic software. The invention is described in the general context of computer-executable instructions, such as program modules, being executed by a computer, such as a personal computer. Generally, program modules include 15 routines, programs, objects, components, data structures, etc., that perform particular tasks or implement particular abstract data types.

The exemplary hardware and operating environment of FIG. 1 includes a general purpose computing device in the form of a 20 computer 20 having processing unit 21, system memory 22, and system bus 23 that operatively couples various system components including system memory 22 to the processing unit 21. There may be only one or there may be more than one

processing unit 21, such that the processor of computer 20 comprises a single central-processing unit (CPU), or a plurality of processing units, commonly referred to as a parallel processing environment. The computer 20 may be a
5 conventional computer, a distributed computer, or any other type of computer; the invention is not so limited.

The system bus 23 may be any of several types of bus structures including a memory bus or memory controller, a peripheral bus, and a local bus using any of a variety of bus
10 architectures. The system memory may also be referred to as simply the memory, and includes read only memory (ROM) 24 and random access memory (RAM) 25. Basic input/output system (BIOS) 26 contains routines that help to transfer information between elements within computer 20, such as during start-up,
15 and is stored in ROM 24. Computer 20 further includes hard disk drive 27 for reading from and writing to a hard disk, not shown, a magnetic disk drive 28 for reading from or writing to a removable magnetic disk 29, and an optical disk drive 30 for reading from or writing to a removable optical disk 31 such as
20 a CD ROM or other optical media.

The hard disk drive 27, magnetic disk drive 28, and optical disk drive 30 are connected to the system bus 23 by a hard disk drive interface 32, a magnetic disk drive interface

33, and an optical disk drive interface 34, respectively. The drives and their associated computer-readable media provide nonvolatile storage of computer-readable instructions, data structures, program modules and other data for the computer 20.

5 It should be appreciated by those skilled in the art that any type of computer-readable media which can store data that is accessible by a computer, such as magnetic cassettes, flash memory cards, digital video disks, Bernoulli cartridges, random access memories (RAMs), read only memories (ROMs), and the like, may be used in the exemplary operating environment.

10 A number of program modules may be stored by hard disk 27, magnetic disk 29, optical disk 31, ROM 24, or RAM 25, including an operating system 35, one or more application programs 36, other program modules 37, and program data 38. A user may enter commands and information into the personal computer 20 through input devices such as a keyboard 40 and pointing device 42. Other input devices (not shown) may include a microphone, joystick, game pad, satellite dish, scanner, or the like.

15 These and other input devices are often connected to processing unit 21 through serial port interface 46 that is coupled to the system bus, but may be connected by other interfaces, such as a parallel port, game port, or a universal serial bus (USB).

20 Monitor 47 or other type of display device is also connected to

the system bus 23 via an interface, such as a video adapter 48.

In addition to the monitor, computers typically include other peripheral output devices (not shown), such as speakers and printers.

5 The computer 20 may operate in a networked environment using logical connections to one or more remote computers, such as remote computer 49. These logical connections are achieved by a communication device coupled to or a part of the computer 20; the invention is not limited to a particular type of

10 communications device. The remote computer 49 may be another computer, a server, a router, a network PC, a client, a peer device or other common network node, and typically includes many or all of the elements described above relative to the computer 20, although only a memory storage device 50 has been

15 illustrated in FIG. 1. The logical connections depicted in FIG. 1 include a local-area network (LAN) 51 and a wide-area network (WAN) 52. Such networking environments are commonplace in offices, enterprise-wide computer networks, intranets and the Internet.

20 When used in a LAN-networking environment, the computer 20 is connected to the local network 51 through a network interface or adapter 53, which is one type of communications device. When used in a WAN-networking environment, the

computer 20 typically includes a modem 54, a type of communications device, or any other type of communications device for establishing communications over the wide area network 52, such as the Internet. The modem 54, which may be internal or external, is connected to the system bus 23 via the serial port interface 46. In a networked environment, program modules depicted relative to the personal computer 20, or portions thereof, may be stored in the remote memory storage device. It is appreciated that the network connections shown are exemplary and other means of and communications devices for establishing a communications link between the computers may be used.

The hardware and operating environment in conjunction with which embodiments of the invention may be practiced has been described. The computer in conjunction with which embodiments of the invention may be practiced may be a conventional computer, a distributed computer, or any other type of computer; the invention is not so limited. Such a computer typically includes one or more processing units as its processor, and a computer-readable medium such as a memory. The computer may also include a communications device such as a network adapter or a modem, so that it is able to communicatively couple other computers.

System Level Overview

According to the invention, computer 20 executes a setup program in order to securely install one or more restricted software modules. As explained in detail below, each restricted software module is encrypted and encapsulated in a corresponding installation module. The setup program invokes the installation module, which in turn decrypts and installs the restricted software modules only when one or more trigger files are present on computer 20. If none of the trigger files are present on computer 20 then, in one embodiment, the setup program installs a non-restricted version of the software module. In this manner, the installation modules securely install the restricted software modules only when computer 20 is authorized. For example, in one embodiment the restricted software modules are domestic strength cryptographic software modules. In this embodiment the installation modules securely install domestic strength cryptographic software only when computer 20 is authorized to use such software. The international version is installed in the event that suitable trigger files are not found on computer 20.

In one embodiment a manufacturer ships a storage device, such as a CD-ROM, that contains a setup program and a set of

software modules, referred to as an encryption pack, for installation on computer 20. Each software module of the encryption pack is encrypted and encapsulated in a corresponding installation module. In one embodiment the setup program of the encryption pack directs a user to log into an authorized website for verification and to download a trigger file for the encryption pack. This technique allows several restricted software modules to be securely shipped to the user while only requiring the user to download a small trigger file in order to install the software modules on computer 20. Alternatively a trigger file may be shipped on the CD-ROM for immediate installation.

FIG. 2 is a block diagram illustrating one embodiment of an installation module 202 that is invoked by the setup program. Installation module 202 comprises code portion 204 and resource portion 206. Resource portion 206 contains database 220 and the encrypted software module 225 that is to be installed on computer 20. Code portion 204 includes executive 215 that, as discussed in detail below, is executable software that decrypts software module 225 when one or more trigger files of a set of trigger files are present on computer 20. Database 220 maintains information for identifying the trigger files. A trigger file may be a previous version of

software module 225 or may be any file suitable for indicating that computer 20 is authorized for having software module 225 installed. As described above, for initial installation the user may download a trigger file from an authorized Internet website or a trigger file may be included on the CD.

FIG. 3 is a block diagram illustrating one embodiment of database 220 of installation module 202. In this embodiment database 220 is a table having two columns and a plurality of rows. Each row corresponds to a trigger file that, when present, triggers the installation of encrypted software module 225. For example, there will be a row within the table for each previous version of software module 225. Other trigger files can be added to the table by adding rows.

Each row of database 220 includes an identifier 302 that is used to determine whether the corresponding trigger file is present on computer 20. In one embodiment, identifier 302 is a first cryptographic hash value generated by hashing the trigger file with a first hash algorithm. Each row further includes a key 304 that is used to decrypt software module 225 when the trigger file is present. Key 304 is encrypted to prevent unauthorized users from manually decrypting and installing software module 225. In one embodiment, key 304 is encrypted as a function of a second cryptographic hash value produced by

hashing the corresponding trigger file with a second hash
algorithm. Thus, in the event that the trigger file is present
on computer 20, the first hash value of the trigger file
matches ID 303 and the second hash value can be used to decrypt
5 key 304 such that software module 225 can then in turn be
decrypted and installed.

Methods of an Exemplary Embodiment of the Invention

10 In the previous section, a system level overview of the
operation of exemplary embodiments of the invention was
described. In this section, the particular methods performed
by the exemplary embodiments are described by reference to a
flowchart. The methods to be performed by the embodiments
constitute computer programs made up of computer-executable
15 instructions. Describing the methods by reference to a
flowchart enables one skilled in the art to develop such
programs including such instructions to carry out the methods
on suitable computing systems from computer-readable media.

FIG. 4 is a flowchart 400 that illustrates one exemplary
20 method of operation of the above-described systems. In order
to securely install restricted software on computer 20 the
setup program begins with block 402, proceeds to block 404 and
retrieves a list of all of the installation modules 202. For

example, in the encryption pack embodiment a manufacturer of software may ship a CD-ROM that contains a plurality of installation modules 202. In one embodiment the setup program retrieves the list from a registry within computer 20.

5 When the list is received, the setup program proceeds to block 406 and invokes each installation module 202 by executing the corresponding executive 215 contained therein. As explained below, executive 215 returns failure when no trigger file is present on computer 20. When at least one trigger file
10 is present executive 215 decrypts software module 225 and returns a pointer to the decrypted software module 225.

 In block 408 the setup program determines whether the invoked executive 215 succeeded or failed. If executive 215 failed then the setup program jumps to block 412. If executive
15 215 succeeded then the setup program proceeds to 410 and installs the decrypted software module 225 that was returned by executive 215.

 In block 412 the setup program loops back to block 406 in the event that there are more installation modules 202 to
20 invoke. Once all of the installation modules 202 have been invoked the setup program proceeds to block 414 and terminates.

 FIG. 5 is a flowchart 500 that illustrates one exemplary method of operation of executive 215 when invoked by the setup

program in block 406 of flowchart 400. Executive 215 begins with block 502, proceeds to block 504 and accesses database 220. More specifically, executive 215 selects one of the rows of database 220 and retrieves ID 302 and key 304.

5 In block 508, executive 215 determines whether the trigger file that corresponds to the selected row exists within computer 20. For new installations the trigger file may be shipped with the encryption pack or the setup program may direct the user to download the trigger file from an Internet
10 website. In order to determine whether the trigger file is present executive 215 examines computer 20 and generates a first hash value and a second hash value for each trigger file of a set of predefined trigger files that is present on computer 20.

15 In block 510 installation module 202 verifies that the identified trigger file is indeed a genuine trigger file by comparing the generated first hash values to ID 302 of the selected row. If none of the generated first hash values match ID 302 then installation module 202 jumps back to block 518. If
20 any of the generated hash values match ID 302 of the selected row then a genuine trigger file is present.

When a match is found, installation module 202 proceeds to block 512 and uses the second hash value to decrypt key 304.

In block 514 installation module 202 uses key 304 to decrypt software module 225. In block 516 installation module 202 successfully terminates and returns a pointer to the decrypted software module 225 for use by the calling setup program.

5 The particular methods for installing encrypted software according to the invention have been described. The methods have been shown by reference to flowcharts that describe various embodiments of the setup program and the installation modules.

10

Conclusion

 An installation process has been described that securely installs restricted software modules on a computer. Although specific embodiments have been illustrated and described
15 herein, it will be appreciated by those of ordinary skill in the art that any arrangement which is calculated to achieve the same purpose may be substituted for the specific embodiments shown. Therefore, this application is intended to cover any adaptations or variations of the present invention.

20 For example, those of ordinary skill within the art will appreciate that in one embodiment the inventive setup program and installation module upgrade a corresponding software module when at least one of a set of trigger files is installed on the

computer. Each installation module securely encapsulates an encrypted version of a corresponding software module and is programmed to determine whether a genuine trigger file exists.

In another embodiment, the invention is a set of software
5 modules, referred to as an encryption pack, that is shipped for new installation on a computer.

552040" 23432260

We claim:

1. An installation module comprising:
 - an encrypted software module; and
 - an executive for decrypting the encrypted software module when at least one of a set of trigger files is stored on a computing system.
2. The installation module of claim 1 and further comprising a database for identifying the trigger files.
3. The installation module of claim 2, wherein the database includes a key for decrypting the software module.
4. The installation module of claim 3, wherein the key is encrypted.
5. The installation module of claim 2, wherein the database includes a hash value for each of the trigger files.
6. The system of claim 1, wherein the encrypted software module is a cryptographic software module.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the encrypted software module is a dynamic-link library (DLL) for providing a secure socket layer (SSL).

8. The system of claim 1, wherein the encrypted software module resides on a computer-readable medium.

9. A software system comprising:

an installation module comprising:

an encrypted software module, and

an executive for decrypting the encrypted software

module when at least one of a set of trigger files

is stored on a computing system; and

a setup program for invoking the executive and loading the decrypted software module onto a computing system.

10. The software system of claim 9, wherein the setup program loads one of the trigger files onto the computing system.

11. The software system of claim 10, wherein the setup program retrieves the loaded trigger file from an Internet website.

12. The software system of claim 9, wherein the encrypted software module is a cryptographic software module.

13. The software system of claim 12, wherein the encrypted software module is a dynamic-link library (DLL) for providing a secure socket layer (SSL).

14. The software system of claim 9, wherein the encrypted software module resides on a computer-readable medium.

15. A computing method comprising:

decrypted an encrypted software module when at least one of a set of trigger files is stored on a computing system; and

loading the decrypted software module onto the computing system.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the decrypting step includes determining whether a prior version of the encrypted software module is stored on a computing system.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the determining step includes retrieving hash values for the trigger files from a database.

18. The method of claim 15, wherein the decrypting step includes retrieving a cryptographic key from a database.

19. The method of claim 15 and further including loading one of the trigger files onto the computing system

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the loading step includes retrieving the loaded trigger file from an Internet website.

21. The method of claim 15, wherein the loading step includes loading a cryptographic software module.

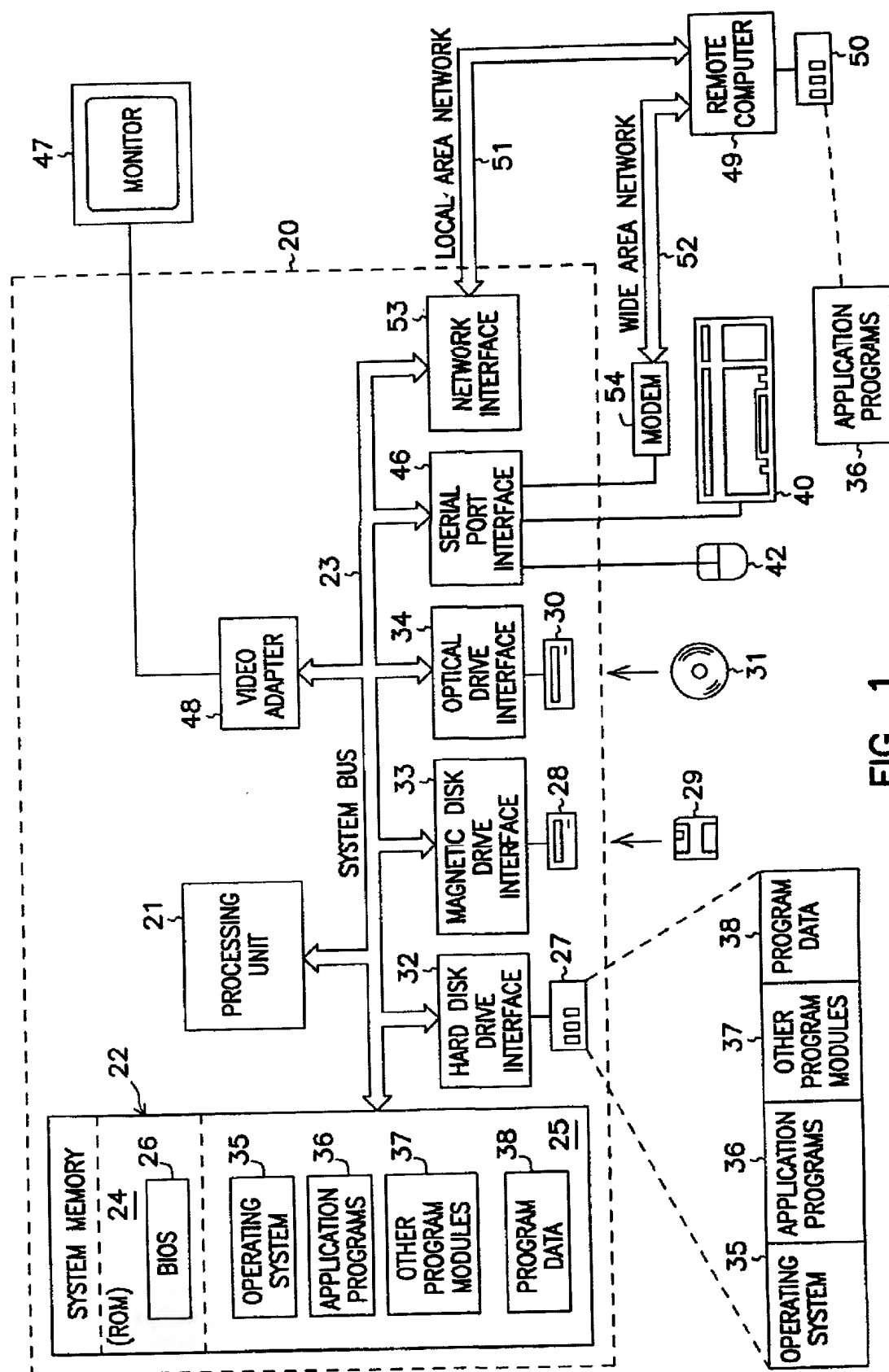
22. The method of claim 15, wherein decrypting the encrypted software module includes retrieving the encrypted software module from a computer-readable medium.

23. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions to cause a computing system to perform the method of claim 15.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 An installation mechanism that securely installs encrypted software modules on a computer is described. The mechanism allows restricted software, such as domestic strength cryptography software, to be shipped directly to a user. The mechanism decrypts the software modules and installs the software modules on the computer only when at least one of a set of trigger files is present on the computer, thereby requiring that the computer be authorized for the restricted software. A setup program invokes each of a plurality of installation modules in order to install the software modules. Each installation module securely encapsulates an encrypted version of the software module and is programmed to decrypt the corresponding software module only when a genuine trigger file is detected.

62040" 2488260
"Express Mail" mailing label number: EL334875369US
Date of Deposit: April 8 1999
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231
Printed Name Chris Hammond
Signature Chris Hammond



INSTALLATION
MODULE

202

CODE

204

EXECUTIVE

215

RESOURCE

206

DATABASE

220

ENCRYPTED
SOFTWARE
MODULE

225

FIGURE 2

DATABASE

220

ID <u>302</u>	KEY <u>304</u>
ID <u>302</u>	KEY <u>304</u>
ID <u>302</u>	KEY <u>304</u>
ID <u>302</u>	KEY <u>304</u>
ID <u>302</u>	KEY <u>304</u>
ID <u>302</u>	KEY <u>304</u>
ID <u>302</u>	KEY <u>304</u>
ID <u>302</u>	KEY <u>304</u>
ID <u>302</u>	KEY <u>304</u>
ID <u>302</u>	KEY <u>304</u>

FIGURE 3

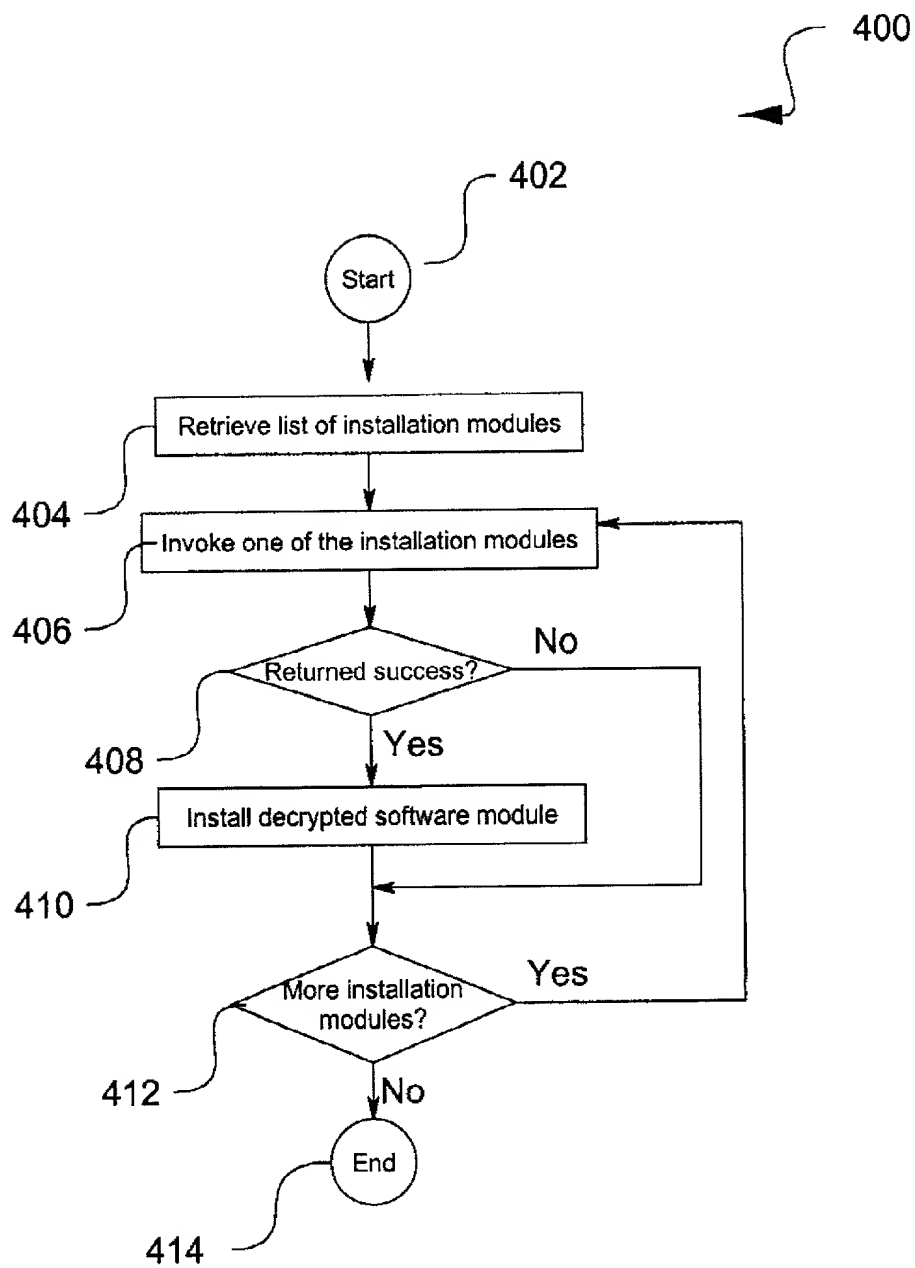


Figure 4

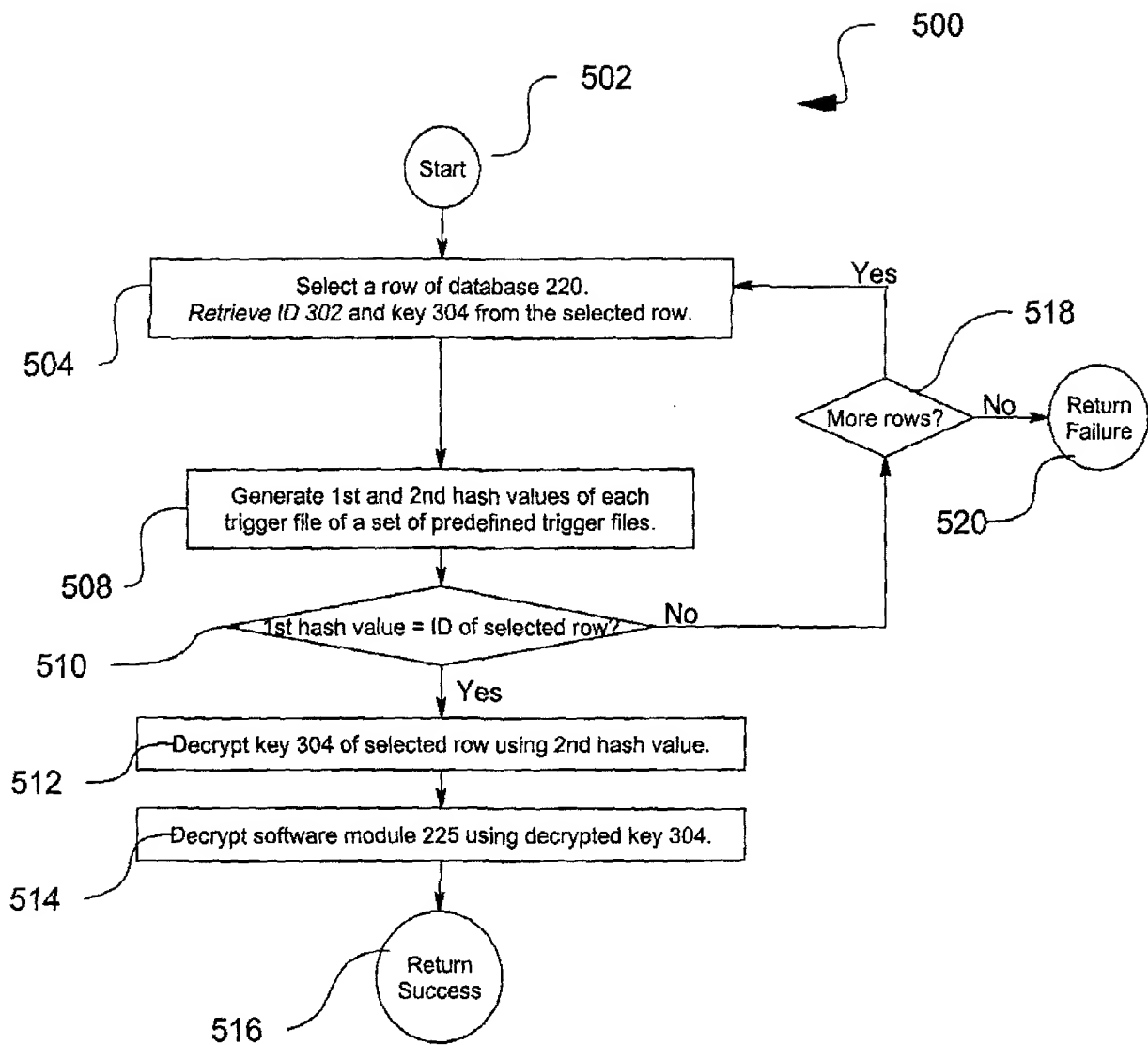


Figure 5

United States Patent Application

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **ENCRYPTED SOFTWARE INSTALLER**.

The specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 (see page 3 attached hereto). I also acknowledge my duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability which became available between a filing date of a prior application and the national or PCT international filing date in the event this is a Continuation-In-Part application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.63(e).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

No such claim for priority is being made at this time.

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

No such claim for priority is being made at this time.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120/365 of any United States and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

No such claim for priority is being made at this time.

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

Adams, Matthew W.	Reg. No. 43,459	Forденbacher, Paul J.	Reg. No. 42,546	Maki, Peter C.	Reg. No. 42,832
Anglin, J. Michael	Reg. No. 24,916	Forrest, Bradley A.	Reg. No. 30,837	Mates, Robert E.	Reg. No. 35,271
Arora, Suneel	Reg. No. 42,267	Harris, Robert J.	Reg. No. 37,346	McCrackin, Ann M.	Reg. No. 42,858
Bianchi, Timothy E.	Reg. No. 39,610	Holloway, Sheryl S.	Reg. No. 37,850	Oh, Allen J.	Reg. No. 42,047
Billion, Richard E.	Reg. No. 32,836	Huebsch, Joseph C.	Reg. No. 42,673	Padys, Danny J.	Reg. No. 35,635
Black, David W.	Reg. No. 42,331	Kalis, Janal M.	Reg. No. 37,650	Polglaze, Daniel J.	Reg. No. 39,801
Brennan, Thomas F.	Reg. No. 35,075	Klima-Silberg, Catherine I.	Reg. No. 40,052	Sako, Katie E.	Reg. No. 32,628
Brooks, Edward J., III	Reg. No. 40,925	Kluth, Daniel J.	Reg. No. 32,146	Schwegman, Micheal L.	Reg. No. 25,816
Clark, Barbara J.	Reg. No. 38,107	Lacy, Rodney L.	Reg. No. 41,136	Sieffert, Kent J.	Reg. No. 41,312
Crouse, Daniel D.	Reg. No. 32,022	Leffert, Thomas W.	Reg. No. 40,697	Slifer, Russell D.	Reg. No. 39,838
Drake, Eduardo E.	Reg. No. 40,594	Lemaire, Charles A.	Reg. No. 36,198	Steffey, Charles E.	Reg. No. 25,179
Eliseeva, Maria M.	Reg. No. 43,328	Litman, Mark A.	Reg. No. 26,390	Terry, Kathleen R.	Reg. No. 31,884
Emбетson, Janet E.	Reg. No. 39,665	Lundberg, Steven W.	Reg. No. 30,568	Viksנים, Ann S.	Reg. No. 37,748
Fogg, David N.	Reg. No. 35,138	Mack, Lisa K.	Reg. No. 42,825	Woessner, Warren D.	Reg. No. 30,440

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/organization/who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner & Kluth, P.A. to the contrary. Please direct all correspondence in this case to Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner & Kluth, P.A. at the address indicated below:

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

P.O. Box 2938, Minneapolis, MN 55402

Telephone No. (612)373-6900

658040 "248860

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of joint inventor number 1 : **Richard Alexander Harrington**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

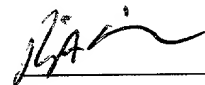
Residence: **Seattle, WA**

Post Office Address: 905 22nd Avenue
Seattle, WA 98122

Signature:

Richard Alexander Harrington

Date:

 4/6/99

Full Name of joint inventor number 2 : **Rama I. Srinivasan**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

Residence: **Redmond, WA**

Post Office Address: 7740 149th Avenue N.E.
Redmond, WA 98052

Signature:

Rama I. Srinivasan

Date:

4/6/99

Full Name of joint inventor number 3 : **Terence R. Spies**

Citizenship: **United States of America**

Residence: **Kirkland, WA**

Post Office Address: 213 5th Avenue West
Kirkland, WA 98033

Signature:

Terence R. Spies

Date:

4/6/99

Full Name of inventor:

Citizenship:

Residence:

Post Office Address:

Signature:

Date:

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
 - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
 - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
- (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.